

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 EURE-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-01 SP-02

STR-04 TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 DODE-00 PM-04

H-01 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-06 /095 W

-----171752Z 068534 /47

P R 171731Z JAN 77

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8798

INFO ALL EC CAPITALS 0293

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 01502

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR FR GW EC XF

SUBJ: QUAI COMMENTS ON EC MIDEAST ACTIVITIES

1. IN DISCUSSION JAN 14, QUAI DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR THE
LEVANT (HENRI SERVANT) INDICATED THAT FONMIN
GUIRINGAUD IS, AS HAS BEEN REPORTED,
CONTEMPLATING VISITS TO SEVERAL MIDEAST COUNTRIES IN THE
COMING MONTHS. SERVANT WAS RELUCTANT TO NAME THE
COUNTRIES INVOLVED, BUT ISRAEL, EGYPT, SYRIA AND
LEBANON ARE APPARENTLY UNDER CONSIDERATION. THE ABOU
DAOUD AFFAIR MIGHT WELL DELAY GUIRINGAUD'S VISIT TO
ISRAEL, SERVANT THOUGHT, AS WELL AS THE TRIPS BEING
PLANNED BY MINISTER OF INDUSTRY MICHEL D'ORNANO AND
SECSTATE FOR CULTURE FRANCOISE GIROUD, THE LATTER IN
RESPONSE TO A LONG-STANDING INVITATION.

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2. QUERIED ABOUT FONMIN GENSCHER'S UPCOMING TRAVELS
AND ANY GERMAN "INITIATIVE" IN THE MIDEAST, SERVANT
REPLIED THAT DURING LAST WEEK'S FRANCO-GERMAN
DISCUSSIONS ON THE AREA, THE FRENCH HAD ALMOST CONVINCED
THEIR INTERLOCUTERS THAT THE GERMAN SUGGESTION FOR THE
EC-NINE TO GO FURTHER IN DECLARATIONS ABOUT THE ME THAN

THE STATEMENTS MADE BY THE DUTCH PRESIDENCY DURING THE 31ST UNGA WAS A NON-STARTER. SOME OF THE NINE SIMPLY WILL NOT AGREE TO DO SO NOW, SERVANT SAID.

3. THE IDEA WHICH THE GERMANS CURRENTLY ARE PUSHING, SERVANT CONTINUED, IS FOR THE NINE "TO COME UP WITH A NEW FORMULA" FOR ACHIEVING PALESTINIAN PARTICIPATION AT GENEVA. WHILE ACCEPTING THAT IN THEORY IT WOULD BE USEFUL FOR THE EUROPEANS TO FIND SUCH A FORMULA, SERVANT THOUGHT THAT IN PRACTICE, THE LIKELIHOOD OF THEIR BEING ABLE TO DEVELOP ONE WAS SLIGHT. THE EC MIDEAST EXPERTS MEETING IN LONDON ON JAN 24 ARE EXPECTED TO EXAMINE THIS PROPOSAL.

4. COMMENT: DISCLAIMERS NOTWITHSTANDING, THE QUAI IS DOUBTLESS MORE CONCERNED BY THE NASCENT GERMAN DIPLOMATIC ACTIVITY IN THE MIDEAST, THAN BY THE SUBSTANCE OF ANY GERMAN PROPOSALS. AS THE ABOU DAOUD AFFAIR SHOWED, THE GOF CONTINUES TO HOLD TO ITS POLICY OF AVOIDING OFFENSE TO THE ARABS AT ALMOST ANY COST. THE QUAI THUS WOULD VIEW ANY POTENTIAL GERMAN ACTIVITY IN THE ME WITH SUSPICION, FEARING THAT IT MIGHT JEOPARDIZE THE ARABS' PERCEPTION OF FRANCE AS THEIR BEST FRIEND IN THE WEST. WHILE THE GOF IS NOT LIKELY TO GO OFF THE DEEP END IN EXERTING PRO-ARAB PRESSURES ON THE NINE, THE AWAKENED GERMAN INTEREST IN THE PROBLEM MAY CREATE THE KIND OF RIVALRY WITH FRANCE WHICH WOULD INCREASE THE CHANCES FOR FURTHER EC MOVEMENT TOWARD ARAB THESES. REPORTS ABOUT NEXT WEEK'S EXPERTS MEETING
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MAY INDICATE WHETHER SUCH AN EVOLUTION IS TAKING PLACE. ALL THIS SHOULD NOT BE CONSTRUED AS REFLECTING ANY CHANGE IN THE OFFICIAL FRENCH VIEW THAT PRESSURE BY THE NEW ADMINISTRATION ON ISRAEL IS NECESSARY TO MAKE PROGRESS TOWARDS S SETTLEMENT. BOTH THE ELYSEE AND THE QUAI HAVE RECENTLY RECONFIRMED THAT BELIEF.
RUSH

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